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THE MANIFESTO

OCTOBER, 1898.

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THE MANIFESTO.

Books & Papers.

THE OUTLOOK continues to give its readers a week-to-week history of the events of the war. In addition to the valuable letters of Mr. George Kennan, which will still continue, altho for the moment interrupted by an attack of fever which compelled Mr. Kennan to return to this country from Cuba, THE OUTLOOK has printed many extracts from private letters about the war, is publishing from time to time extracts from A Trooper's Diary; (being the diary of a young Amherst student who is now in Manila,) and, of course, gives in addition a connected history of events as they occur. The September Magazine Number contains an illustrated article on Santiago. After the Surrender; by Anna N. Benjamin, an installment of A Trooper's Diary; an account of The Fight of the Rough Riders; as told by a private in one of the troops, an editorial examination of Secretary Alger's Defense; and in other ways shows an active interest in the events preceding the declaration of peace. (\$3 a year. The Outlook Co., 287 Fourth Avenue, N. Y.)

The widow of Richard Wagner some time ago authorized her husband's life long friend, Houston Stewart Chamberlain, to write, with her assistance, two articles on The Personal Side of Richard Wagner. Mr. Chamberlain undertook the work, and *The Ladies' Home Journal* secured the material. The articles are singularly valuable in that they give a complete picture of the man in his home and daily life, and contain much new matter, while many of the illustrations and portraits have never been printed. There will be two articles, His Personal Side; and How He Wrote His Operas; and the first one will appear in the October number of the magazine.

WHO MADE THE NEW TESTAMENT? By H. L. Hastings. It would, indeed, interest a large number of persons to know for a certainty, just who made the New Testament. To set the mind at rest, the author has endeavored to answer this question, and to answer it clearly and correctly. A careful perusal of the little book will no doubt shed much light upon the subject, and the interested reader will be amply compensated. Send five cents to No. 47 Cornhill, Boston, and obtain a copy.

The handsome external appearance of FRANK LESLIE'S POPULAR MONTHLY for September is borne out by an exceptionally attractive table of contents. The leading article, A Warship's Battery; by Henry Harrison Lewis, tells how the great guns are placed and worked, and is illustrated with some splendid pictures of our victorious ships in action at Manila and Santiago. The famous Johnson Island Conspiracy; an episode of the Civil War, recalled by the recent death of Leonard B. Johnson, of Sandusky, Ohio, is in-

terestingly recounted by Frederic Boyd Stevenson. Another article of historical as well as picturesque value is John P. Ritter's Story of Wyoming the Beautiful. The artistic rambles in Holland, of Blasing, the celebrated American cattle painter, are chronicled, with some original sketches by his friend J. M. Erwin. Canoe Cruising; by Commodore F. R. Wood, is full of pleasant summer suggestions. Katharine Tynan contributes some charming notes upon The Irish People at Home; accompanying half a dozen characteristic pictures by Helmick. The tenth and final paper of the Religious Denominations series is The Roman Catholics; by the Rev. A. P. Doyle. The two serials, Marie Tremaine; and An American Princess; are continued. The complete short tales in this month's FRANK LESLIE'S POPULAR MONTHLY include; Merely a Passing Passion; Maude Conway's Brother; Which Won Cuba? by Genevieve L. Brown, and As a Last Resort; by J. Frederick Thorne. A notable poem is Mr. H. N. Dodge's Spirit of Freedom; illustrated by Frank Adams. The Soldier's Tent; by Carmen Sylva, the gifted Queen of Roumania, will rank as one of the most beautiful war lyrics of modern times.

A VISIT TO THE

SHAKERS

of EAST CANTERBURY, N. H.

BY

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The Manifesto.

PUBLISHED BY THE SHAKERS

Vol. XXVIII.

OCTOBER, 1898.

No. 10

Entered at the Post Office at East Canterbury, N. H., as Second-Class Matter.

ASCENDING LIFE.

By Martha J. Anderson.

THE fine and subtile laws of alchemy
A secret power of transmutation hold,
Touch with refining sensibility,
And bring to light each hidden grain of gold.
Thus, from earth's basis to ethereal spheres
In pure atomic substance wisely planned,
More sublimated each degree appears
That forms successive kingdoms, high and grand.
Life's occult forces work with magic skill
To build anew, till earth and heaven blend,
Eternal laws of progress to fulfill
In chain of being that shall never end.
Mark the material forms that round us rise!
They reach their zenith, yield to blight and death,
But spirit hath a growth that never dies.
'Tis life of all that lives, and ceaseless breath.
'Tis spiritual force that guides the suns
And worlds that fill immensity of space,

Electric fluid through each atom runs
That evolution gives a form and place.

Man—crowning point of the created whole—
The impress of his Maker's image wears;
This microcosm—body, spirit, soul,—
Resemblance to creation fully bears.

Each special phase of being here combined,—
The soul and sentiment of every thing—
Is germinal within the immortal mind
That yet shall blossom in eternal spring.

My wisdom placed within this rudimental sphere
To give his noble powers unfoldment free,
His childhood state brings teachers, year by year,
Who spreads for him the chart of destiny;
He reads and thinks, he learns and understands,
Aspires still further with a yearning hope,
And lo! his God-like soul expands,
And ever fruitful fields before him ope.

'Tis life progressive, ever on and on,
A glorious resurrection day by day;
'Tis step by step, and starry summits won,
That mark our ever upward, onward way.
Mt. Lebanon, N. Y.

NOTES FROM OUR DIARY.

WE left home on Monday Aug. 1st and only reached the City of Concord, a distance of twelve miles. Elder Wm. W. Briggs was one of the company so far as this place.

AUG. 2. Left Concord at 10-15 a. m. for Boston. Several hours were occupied in canceling some obligations that demanded attention. While walking along the street, the voice of singing was heard and a little boy proffered this information

"It is only two or three doors ahead of you, mister."

"What is it that's only two doors ahead?"

"They are having a meeting, sir. It is right up these stairs."

Thanking the little man, we ascended the stairs and soon found that we were among Salvationists. They were having a private meeting, and we soon learned that not many strangers would be admitted as the Captain came and fastened the door, so that others could not enter,—but did not ask us to retire.

We enjoyed the singing and speaking, and at the close of the service conversed very pleasantly with the Captain, who extended an invitation for us to come again.

AUG. 3. Took the cars at 8-30 a. m. at the Boston & Albany Station for Pittsfield, Mass., the ticket costing \$3.60. On reaching Pittsfield at 1-15 p. m. we found Brother Ira Lawson, with a carriage waiting to convey us to the Village, some three

miles distant. A kind welcome greeted us on arrival at the Trustees' Office and we soon found ourselves in Hancock among the best of friends.

In the p. m. two enquirers called, one being a young minister and the other a physician. We are happy in the anticipation that they went from the Village, wiser and better for the interview. An enjoyable, social chat with Elder Louis Basting made a pleasant close for the evening.

AUG. 4. Took a stroll over the new, State road which has been built through this Village and is being continued to the top of the mountain, on the road to the Village of Mt. Lebanon.

At most the grade is only about five feet in one hundred. If the New York commissioners decide to build a new road on the west side of the mountain it will be of immense value to the traveling public. Another enquirer called at the Office. He assured us that the Lord sent him, altho we soon learned that he had a debt of \$500.00. Persons should cancel their debts before they attempt to enter a religious community.

AUG. 5. The Iron Ore Company that least a section of land belonging to the Community has suspended work. The machinery has been sold and the buildings are being moved away.

Two little girls came out from the City of Pittsfield, yesterday, on their wheels, to visit the Shakers. They were the daughters of wealthy citizens. A heavy thunder-storm past over the Village and they feared to return. A message was sent to their parents, that the Shaker Sisters would care for them until morning.

Having an excellent water privilege in this place, we find a motor in the dairy and a Davis churn. The milk is set in pans. Wood working machinery may be found in another building and ample reservoirs supply water for this, and other places. The best of drinking water comes from springs found on the mountain.

Brother Ira, the Trustee of this Society, has within a few years made important additions to the Trustees' Office, which is now a beautiful building and has been furnished with all the modern conveniences. In the Office room are two sets of fans, revolving very rapidly, being propelled by a small water motor.

AUG. 6. The Society in this place has three families. The Church, Second and East. The Mayor of the City of Pittsfield and the City engineer called at the Office. We had an introduction and enjoyed a very pleasant and social conversation. The Mayor told of the reception that was given to the 1st N. H. Regiment of Volunteers when they past through the City. Col. Rolfe had retired for the night, but the Mayor had him get out of bed and witness the demonstration made in honor of the soldiers.

We made a short visit to the Second family and had a very pleasant interview with Eldress Sophia Helfrich and the other members of the family. In the p. m. accepted a ride with Brother Ira. He drove to the reservoir or lake in the town of Richmond. This water is held for the Grist Mill and other mills, and covers several hundred acres. From this place he drove over some very interesting roads till we reached the Village of Richmond, some five miles south of the Shaker Village. In this poor little town, one mile of State road has been built and the people anticipate the building of another mile. I hardly think we shall be able to find a road, a mile long, in N. H. that will compare favorably with these roads in Mass. After reaching home we estimated our trip to have been some fifteen miles or more.

SUNDAY, AUG. 7. We had breakfast at 7 o'clock. Elder Louis called at the Office and extended an invitation for us to attend the morning Service which commenced at 10 o'clock. Members from the several families attended. Elder Louis made a few remarks at the opening of the Service. He then announced and read

the hymn. An organ accompaniment rendered valuable service to the voices, and the whole was very pleasant to the mind. The Service continued about an hour, and the time was well filled with singing and speaking. In the p. m. several of the Brethren and Sisters from the Society of Mt. Lebanon, called at the Office. The interview was very pleasant, and the invitation to visit their home very much appreciated.

AUG. 8. We accepted the invitation to take a ride with Brother Ira to the City of Pittsfield. We rode many miles around the country before we reached the City, and entered fully into the enchantment of the scenery of western Mass. where the mountains and valleys and lakes remind us so forcibly of those in New Hampshire. We called at the Berkshire Athenaeum which has a Public Library and a large collection of works of Art. It has also several cases of geological specimens and a great variety of curiosities. On our return we met Elder Joseph Holden who had just arrived from Watervliet.

At 5 o'clock p. m. Mr. Robert Brannen and lady, of Denver, Col., called. They had driven from Troy to see their Shaker friends. Mr. Brannen is a wealthy banker in the City of Denver. His visit to the Community was a very pleasant surprise.

The cutting and drying of sweet corn is one of the industries of this place, and they have the best of facilities for expediting the business. The Circular barn is a novelty, but, no doubt, it has many advantages which could not be obtained by building in any other form. The cows are all stalled with their heads toward the center. In the upper loft the teams drive in at one door with their loads of hay, and after unloading can drive around on the inside of the barn and pass out at the same door that they entered.

The Family Dwelling is a large, commodious brick building. Liberal minds planned it, and also arranged it for the convenience of the Community. Additional improvements have been made within a few years and it now stands among the modern dwellings. The underpinning stone, the door-steps and fence posts are mostly of marble found in this section of the country, while the stone walks are generally of coarse limestone. A fine specimen of Granite would be hard to find. Some beds of gravel are occasionally found, and this has been used largely on the State Road.

On our return from a morning walk, we past on to the Laundry and received a kind invitation to enter. We found several Sisters and two or three little girls busily engaged in washing the clothes. Two of the Sisters gave us special attention and conducted us through the several departments. The boiling, rinsing and other holders are supplied with hot water from a large boiler. The washing is still performed by hand, but an excellent wringer reduces much of the hard work. The floor of the laundry is laid with marble slabs, which at first might seem objectionable on account of coldness to the feet. It was thought, however, to be preferable to wood. The room for ironing adjoins that of the wash-room, and has an arch and a stove well arranged for the heating of the flat-irons.

The Sisters accompanied us to the Corn-drying establishment which will soon be in operation. Not less than four corn-cutting machines will be used to keep the four kilns well supplied with corn for drying.

AUG. 10. We walkt to the Cemetery which is but a few rods distant from the Office. The stones are of marble and contain the full name, with the age and date of death. The place presents a very neat and orderly appearance. We found within the enclosure the resting place of Anna Berdick, who was appointed to the Order of Ministry in Canterbury and Enfield, Feb. 15, 1792. She returned to Hancock, in 1793.

Brother Ira invited Elder Joseph and the writer to accompany him to Lenox. A covered carriage offered sure protection against the threatening rain. Lenox is twelve miles distant, and is largely built up by the wealthy residents of New York. We drove through the Village and then directly home, reaching the Trustees' Office at 12 m. The rain had been a little disturbing, but not enough to deprive us of the pleasure of sight seeing.

Limestone seems to be the predominant rock, and it is of beautifully variegated colors. When we reached Lenox we saw the homes of wealth. Thousands and thousands of dollars have their representation in the beautiful residences, and in many places even the barns are as richly furnished as the family dwelling. Tens of thousands of flowers are to be seen in the beautifully cultivated gardens and lawns. As God made the flowers they are all "very good" and worthy to be admired in all their beauty.

Our return trip was over the Berkshire Hills where Brother Ira says the health air may be found. If going up and up and up would help us to find health, then certainly it must have been found. All in all it was a delightful ride, as the whole journey presented some of the most beautiful scenery.

AUG. 11. At 1 o'clock we took a ride with Brother Ira to the top of the mountain over the new road. On our return we entered one of the fields, and were shown a section of land where a company of Indians lived when the Shakers settled in this place. We were shown the old foundation, where the house of Nathan Goodrich formerly stood, in which Mother Ann and the Elders held religious Services. It was in this place that Mother Ann said to the mob that came to the house,—"Draw back, or I will smite the horse and his rider." The horses immediately ran to the road, some ten rods distant, and the riders had no power to govern them. We made a visit to the East family and had a very pleasant interview with Eldress Catherine Pepper and others. They have a small store in the Office where they exhibit some fancy articles for sale.

SUNDAY, AUG. 14. The day was spent as noted at an earlier date. At 6 p. m. we attended a religious gathering at the Family Dwelling. A company of young Sisters, with the little girls were present. A director or superintendent was chosen from among the company present, and the exercises moved along quite pleasantly. Bible reading, singing, and the reading of original or selected articles occupied the time. This can not otherwise than be a profitable, educational school.

AUG. 15. We again walked to the Station and found the Railroad Officials very gentlemanly and affable. By the road side we stooped to examine a wild flower, and soon discovered the plants so familiar in New Hampshire, Blue Vervain, Toad Flax Wood Sorrel, Nettles, Scabish and several other varieties.

On reaching the Second family, Eldress Sophia Helfrich invited us to call and see the cloaks that they were making for sale. Visitors to the Village call at this place to see the goods and make purchases. A great many people pass through the Village on bicycles, but very few stop for dinner. The gardener at the Second family says that the worms are destroying his cabbages and he has been advised to sprinkle them with Paris green.

Eldress Caroline Helfrich has in safe keeping a collection of antique curiosities which we were invited to see. Several patterns of bonnets, the oldest being made without a cape. The frame was of pasteboard and covered with silk. The length some thirteen inches. A cap made of thick cotton cloth, but with a muslin border. A great variety of kerchiefs, aprons, dresses, etc, etc.

AUG. 17. At 1-15 p. m. Brother Ira with a span of horses and a covered carriage, took the writer to the Trustees' Office at Mt. Lebanon. Two Sisters accompanied

us. A ride over the new State Road took us to the top of the mountain. Everybody speaks in its praise. Of the road on the west side of the mountain but little need be said. We may, however, anticipate an improved highway when the Commissioners of New York decide to locate it.

On reaching the Church family at Mt. Lebanon, we were soon among friends, and proffered a very cordial welcome. Our visit to the several families was somewhat limited, yet it was pleasantly appreciated. We had the pleasure of meeting the Elders of every family and many of the Brethren and Sisters. We saw some little girls playing a game of Enchantment, and others equally as happy seated in a lawn swing.

Mt. Lebanon is a beautiful place. Every thing about it is neatly arranged, while the care of the lawns and flowers in front of the Family Dwelling are really attractive. The large, brick Dwelling at the First family, and the Family Dwelling at the Novitiate Order are especially handsome buildings. The Church or House of Worship attracts the attention of all visitors. The rooms formerly occupied by the Order of Ministry have been vacated since the building of the new residence. A public Service has been held during the season.

Sister Amelia Calver in connection with many other duties has the charge of several colonies of honey bees. That she appreciates the pleasure of the employment, there can be no doubt, as all the care given to the "little busy bee," meets with a ready and sweet response. Not even man's best friends, the dog or the horse is more appreciative of care and kindness than is the "Queen and her family."

As our time was limited we made only a brief visit to the several families. In these visits we thankfully shared many acts of care and kindness. This is the central home of all our gospel relation, who have accepted the cross of Christ, and become sons and daughters of our God.

AUG. 21. Public Service was held at 10 a. m. Elder Calvin Reed conducts the Service one Sabbath, Elder Timothy Rayson the second Sabbath, and Elder Charles Greaves the third. Quite a large company of spectators were present, and we learned that the speaking and singing were excellent and appropriate for the occasion. The dear friends at the Trustees' Office, were all that friends could be, and our every need was amply supplied.

Three little girls and their Caretaker made us a visit at the Office. Other Brethren and Sisters were also present, and all were pleasantly entertained by the children, who sung several pieces and played their own accompaniments on an organ. This was followed by some very pretty recitations and formed a fitting close for the day.

AUG. 22. At 9-45 we said "Good-bye" to Mt. Lebanon, and Brother Ferdinand Gainebin with two Sisters were at the door with a covered carriage and a span of horses. We were now on our way to Hancock, which we reached via. Canaan Lower family, Queechy Lake, and Richmond Lake, at 12-15.

AUG. 23. Left Hancock for Albany, N. Y. at 7-35 a. m. Ticket, \$1.08. Reached Albany at 9-10 a. m. and found Elder Joseph Holden present with a carriage. We drove through a beautiful City Park, and then through West Albany, and reached the Shaker Village at 11-15. As the Ministry of Mt. Lebanon were at this place, we visited them at their residence. This Order was established as the leading authority in all the spiritual interests of the Community at large, and through this, their care becomes universal. This little interview was very pleasant.

As the time was quite limited for the visit to this Society, only a very short time could be spent in any one place. Our home was in the Trustees' Office, which is under the management of Brother J. Philip Smith and two Sisters. Every care and

kindness was extended to make the time pass pleasantly. We visited each family and enjoyed the privilege of meeting with the Elders, and with many of the Brethren and Sisters. It was a busy season of the year, and three of the families were engaged in the canning of beans, peas, tomatoes, etc.

AUG. 24. Last night we were visited by a thunder-storm that gave us a continuous flashing of lightning, and an incessant roar of thunder for three hours. It was a fearful exhibition of the powers of the air, and it was a great relief to the mind when the outburst was over. The downpour of rain was as in the days of Noah when the windows of heaven were opened. While it did no damage to the Community, it destroyed many buildings and trees in its line of march. The several families in this Society are quite distant from each other, and entirely hidden from the view of either one. The Cemetery at this place presented a very neat appearance. The stones were of white marble, and placed in the best of order. Of this little enclosure no one need be ashamed. It manifested a kind regard for the departed and a respect for the living.

The First family has a large two story brick building for a Trustees' Office. The rooms and halls are of liberal size and high posted. Some of the rooms have recently been papered on the sides and overhead, and present a very pretty appearance. The Family Dwelling is a frame building, of two stories and well arranged for the comfort and convenience of the family in every respect. Every family has ample accommodations in their dwellings, and all of these buildings present an appearance that is highly commendable to our religious Community.

AUG. 26. We bade adieu to the good friends of Watervliet and were taken to West Albany in a carriage, and were at the Station and ready to take the train for West Pittsfield, where we arrived at 4-20 p. m. Brother Ira Lawson was in waiting and we were soon riding on our way to the Church family.

AUG. 27. Took a walk to the reservoir which supplies water to the dwellings and to the mills. The water was as "clear as crystal" and the supply we trust, never failing.

SEPT. 1. We made a visit to the vacated Society of Tyringham. At 7 a. m. Brother Ira Lawson was at the door with a carriage and a span of horses and with Eldress Sophia Helfrich and Emoretta Belden we were soon on our way. We past through Richmond, Stockbridge, South Lee and reacht Tyringham at noon.

In the building formerly used as the Trustees' Office, we found a family who were taking charge of the property. Mr. Nash invited us into the house, and then very kindly offered to show us about the premises. We past into the Office, and then through the Meeting House. These buildings had been entirely remodeled on the inside to accommodate the summer boarders. We made a hasty inspection of the other buildings, and everywhere was to be seen the substantial work of consecrated hands. Force of circumstances, however, had obliged the Believers to sell the property and take up their abode in other Societies.

The Shakers of Tyringham selected a remarkable place for the location of their Village. It is in a mountainous region, and while the mountain rises several hundred feet above the buildings, the valley in which was to be found their best land for tillage, was many hundred feet below them. Some of the houses that were entered from the roadway and built for a two story dwelling, were in the rear a four story building. A marble tablet in the Family Dwelling shows the date of the building to be 1823. Several other buildings were in a good state of preservation. A little building was made in the side of the mountain, and about ten feet square, to be used for the setting of milk and the storing of butter. A large limestone slab formed the roof, and assisted in making this a simple cold storage.

The place is now being fitted up for Summer boarders. It is six miles from a Railroad Station and in a section of the country with few inhabitants. The scenery, however, to those who love lofty mountains and deep valleys, is enchanting.

Bidding adieu to the once loved Community home, a sad, unbidden thought fitted across the mind. We reached Stockbridge at 1-45 p. m. and dined at the Red Lion's Inn. As the Believers are so well acquainted with the Proprietor and his lady we felt very much at home. The house was filled with guests and many called only to be refused for want of room. At this place we were shown a museum of curiosities, in furniture, in crockery, etc. etc. A shelf extended around the large dining room and on this were hundreds of plates, of all patterns, sizes and ages. Some were of historical value, while others were prized for age and others illustrative of some special incident in life, while others were of great value on account of being rare specimens. The guide informed us that some of these plates were valued at not less than \$40.00. The Proprietor, Mr. C. H. Plumb, very kindly took us to see his tall, brass clocks. He had three very nice specimens and one in a mahogany case could not be purchased for \$150.00. After dinner we continued our journey toward home, and past through Lenox and on through the City of Pittsfield, reaching the Village at 7 p. m. to the satisfaction of the whole company, after such an interesting excursion.

SEPT. 2. At 9 a. m. in company with two Sisters we took the cars for Pittsfield. After closing our business in the city we took an electric car for Lake Pontoosuc a few miles distant. The little lake is one mile long and three quarters of a mile wide. A small steamer took us around the lake for ten cents each. A man steers the boat but a woman officiates as an engineer. We called on some friends of the Believers, and then returned to the City for dinner. After attending to some more business calls we took the cars for West Pittsfield.

SEPT. 5. At 9 a. m. in company with two Sisters we took the cars for Pittsfield. Several Sisters also accompanied us from the East family. As this was "Labor Day," the Catholic Temperance Societies had arranged for a parade. Delegations were present from several cities in Mass. and not less than ten or twelve bands of music were in the procession. It was estimated that 18000 persons were present, but the best of order prevailed during the day. The Sisters from the East family, soon after took a car for Lake Pontoosuc where they spent the day, while we went to Dalton Village some five miles distant. We dined at the Hotel and then returned to the City, and at 4-20 p. m. took the cars for West Pittsfield in company with the other Sisters. All seemed of the opinion that they had spent a very pleasant day.

The cultivation of music is receiving increast attention in every society. A piano or a Cabinet organ may be found in nearly every family. Not many, however use them during the time of religious worship. Since the organization of the Community these several changes have been taking place,—in the architecture of the buildings, in the general management of their business, as well as in articles of diet and in the manufacture of their clothing.

Medieval customs and habits were eminently proper in that age, but as the earth or world moves, the people must move with it or be left in the rear. To stop this onward progress would be like attempting to stop the wheels of time. It was only a few years since and no Shaker would have worn a beard, or even accepted the gift of an artificial tooth. A drab coat and a broad-brimmed hat designated the order to which he belonged, and the Sisters were no less conspicuous in their lace caps and high heeled shoes; but as hats and coats are quite destitute of religious vitality some families have felt at liberty to bring forward a system more in accordance with the light of to-day.

East Canterbury, N. H.

H. C. Blinn.

*In Memory of our Loved Sister, NANCY DOW.**By Elizabeth Sears.*

A LOVED one has left us and past through the portals
That lead to an endless fruition of joy.
Perfected through suffering she joins the immortals
The purified number in heavenly employ
Through scenes of adversity, conflict and trial
Our Sister has past with an unshaken trust
Through noble endeavors and true self-denial
Secured the reward of the upright and just.
In life's early morn when temptations surrounded
She chose the straight path which our Savior e'er trod,
With faith in his teachings her spirit abounded
Devoting her all to the service of God.
While many turned backward in search of vain pleasure
Companions and friends who were dearer than life
Our Sister chose rather the heavenly treasure
Contentment and freedom from turmoil and strife.
Her talents and strength with unswerving devotion
Were most freely given, Zion's cause to sustain
She made no reserve but with full consecration
Gave all she possessed for its honor and gain.
In acts of benevolence freely she tendered
That love which pervadeth her spirit each day.
To the stranger and friendless sweet services rendered
To aid and encourage them in this pure way.
How deep was her interest and strong her endeavor
To lighten the burdens of each weary one.
With kindness and love for each sister and brother
She faithfully toiled till each duty was done.
Dear sister and friend, may thy shining example
Be ever a light to illumine our way.
And while here we journey through sunshine and shadow
Permit us to share in thy blessings, we pray.

Narcoossee, Fla.

OUR OLIVE BRANCH.

IN Runnymede township, one mile from Ashton station on the Sugar Belt Railway, lies the splendid domain of the Shaker colony known as Olive Branch. To call it a farm would belittle the place in a section where farms are so small as here, for it contains nearly seven thousand acres, of which

sixteen hundred are enclosed with a substantial fence, and arrangements are about completed for fencing as much more.

If all the "doubting Thomases" in Florida would visit Olive Branch, their opinions as to the capacity of soil for producing stock, cereals, fruits, vegetables and cane would change materially, or at least be modified, as their land is but a fair sample of what may be found in any portion of Osceola county. The writer recently inspected the place through an invitation from the business manager, Mr. Benjamin Gates, and came away convinced it only needed the patient, intelligent industry manifested here to make farm life not only a delightful, but a remunerative occupation. In the grounds connected with the house and business office are orange, peach, apricot and persimmon trees with a large number of flowering plants. It seems to be the policy of this community to unite the beautiful with the practical; so you find here fruit trees, vines, shrubs, tropical foliage plants and flowering bulbs all in one group relieving the lawn from that stiffness noticed in public parks. An irrigating plant supplies the five acres immediately adjoining the house. For field crops they are this season growing Irish and sweet potatoes, cane, velvet beans, cow peas, beggar weed, rice and pumpkins. All of them look well, the cane being remarkably good.

Living largely, but not exclusively on vegetable food, the garden is always a feature in a Shaker community. I noticed remarkably fine tomatoes, okra, beets, spinach and turnips.

Most interesting of all to visitors is the pinery, which is now budding, blossoming and fruiting. The plants are uniform in size and fruiting well. While not as large a pinery as some others in the state we have visited, for health of plants and general neatness of the grounds it has no superior. The design of the community has always been to make cattle growing the great industry, and for this the place is admirably fitted. It has numerous lakes with abundant water for every pasture. Stockmen who have had cattle on this range claim it is one of the best in Florida. At present there are about nine hundred head of cattle in the portion enclosed. With the additional pastures to be enclosed this fall they can carry 2,000 head.

It is a fact that the revenues of the place now make all the improvements, and that it is not done, as many claim, with assistance from kindred associations north. Under the able management of Mr. Benjamin Gates, and his aids, Andrew Barrett and Brother Egbert, Olive Branch will soon become a landmark in Florida, an experimental station without state aid. There are no secrets here. Success is obtained and made possible by brains and muscle. A pleasant and profitable day it was we spent at Olive Branch, and to Sisters and Brothers we tender our sincere thanks.

—Selected.

PRAYER prevails against temptation and brings the tried soul peace.

THE MANIFESTO.

OCTOBER, 1898.

OFFICE OF PUBLICATION.

THE MANIFESTO is published by the "UNITED SOCIETY OF BELIEVERS" on the first of each month, and is the only work issued regularly by the SHAKER COMMUNITY. Its aim is to furnish a plain and simple statement of the religious views of the ORDER and to inculcate the spirit of righteousness.

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NOTES ABOUT HOME.

Mt. Lebanon, N. Y.

August.

Average of Weather at Mt. Lebanon.

	Thermometer.	Rain.
1897.	67.52	4.5 in.
1898.	72.84	10.75 "
Highest Temp. during this mo.	92 above 0.	
Lowest	" " " "	50 " "
Number of rainy days	" " "	14
" " clear	" " "	8
" " cloudy	" " "	9

Sept. 1898.

HERE we are standing on the front steps of the portico of autumn, taking a survey of the exodus of summer which is floating away upon the boundless sea of eternity. We shall never again see the summer of 1898. The flight of time

brings forcibly to mind the reveries of the poet Whittier:

"O welcome calm of heart and mind!
As falls yon fir tree's loosened rind,
To leave a tenderer growth behind,
So fall the weary years away;
A child again my head I lay
Upon the lap of this sweet day."

Prof. Hicks, the great weather prognosticator, said that from the 4th to the 15th of July we should have electric storms, but July was very quiet, not being affected especially with this element; August abounded in electric storms, some of them terrific. Of late we have had a superabundance of rain, which cut deep gutters in the face of Mother Earth. Nevertheless between storms we have got our hay crop safely garnered. We have commenced digging potatoes. The wet weather is causing the rot to affect the crop some.

Elder Henry C. Blinn has been spending a season at the Church family, Hancock, to recuperate his health. From August 18th to the 22nd, he called at the Mount, and we spent a very pleasant time with him for he is skilled with tact and ability to make time pass pleasantly while in his company. He makes the Impress,

"Tis joy to meet with kindred minds
And spend the social hour
Replete with pleasure pure, refined
Distilled from heaven's bower.

Sympathy is a heavenly gift that causes us to joy with those who joy: to weep with those who weep; to share in one another's grief and loss; to impart consolation to the sorrowing; to show a divine inspiring radiance to light the pathway of the mourner. Our spirits mingle with yours, dear gospel relation, in your late bereavement in the passport of your dear Eldress Dorothy. With some this will be your day of trial, but keep the Faith that will make you worthy to receive the crown of life, that will weave for you and adorn you with the robe of angelic purity and the diadem of unsullied beauty, and the blessing and inspiring influence of Eldress Dorothy will be an enduring light.

to guide you safely in the pathway of righteousness and abiding peace.

Calvin G. Reed.

North Family.

Sept. 1898.

It certainly is delightful to draw a breath of pure restfulness at last without scorching reminiscences of our new tropical possessions or of that other place which Ridpath politely designates the bottom of the old theologies. This summer has been one of many visitors from the numerous resorts among the Berkshires.

The world is surely fast growing better, more thoughtful, more sensible, more aspiring, or we are honored by calls from the best of its people, for our visitors this summer have been of an exceptionally high type, people of culture in the broadest sense of that word, wide awake to the necessities of the times and eager and earnest in their inquiries for any and everything by which these necessities of body, brain and soul might be supplied.

Dear Sister Catherine has talked from morn till dewy eve explaining and expounding, and then frequently supplements this talking by means of letters in answer to would-be questions forgotten at the time. Among all the pleasant memories of our visitors none are more satisfactory than those connected with Elder Henry Blinn. And yet this pleasure is tinged with a thought of sadness. Have we, perhaps in our mistaken kindness, retarded instead of hastened the health we so earnestly desire him to possess? Our full sympathy, best wishes and highest hopes attend his goings forth and his home comings!

Sisters Lydia Staples and May Rullhaussen are in Chatham presiding over the Shaker exhibit there. This exhibit has called forth warm words of commendation in the columns of the local paper. Our family have about forty entries of articles for competition in the Ladies' Industrial Department.

The course of events at home is as usu-

al. We believe with our poet;

"God is in His Heaven

All is right with the world"

or will be when the coming kingdom comes.

G. Ada Brown.

South Family.

Sept. 1898.

THE closing summer month was made delightfully memorable by a visit from our sainted father and friend Elder Henry C. Blinn. We had long looked for his coming and as each year waned we said, he will surely come the next, it must be we shall meet him again in this life. But oh, we so much regretted his brief tarry with us, while we are not disposed to envy our neighbors over the way we congratulate them on their good fortune of entertaining an angel and we wish such had been our pleasing mission too,

But we'll hope in the future
As we've hoped in the past
That again he will come
While yet life shall last.
So good-bye we'll not say
But a welcome extend
For the coming again
Of our father and friend.

Mr. and Mrs. Brannen of Denver, Col. made a pleasant call at our home sometime ago. They are interested in all religious and spiritual improvements of the age and are workers in the cause of humanity. They are personal friends of the late Eldress Alvira Conklin of the Water-vliet Society.

Work on the farm and in the house progresses grandly, hay and grain are of the very best; apples we fear will be a ghost of the past, they are few and inferior, but we shall live and give thanks for the numerous blessings which are ours to enjoy.

Fine weather prevails. September is glorious for the harvesting of fall produce. Health and prosperity rules our family.

Genevieve DeGraw.

Shakers, N. Y.

Sept. 1898.

WE have had another proof of the truth of the ancient proverb that "all good comes

to those who wait." We have anticipated and hoped that the Editor of our **MANIFESTO** would find time to give us a call, and we almost concluded that we were hoping against hope, when his benign presence appeared in our midst. We were thankful for the short period of social communion that we enjoyed with him and will hope that sometime in the not distant future it may be repeated.

The quickening of the moral and spiritual sensibilities of the nations as manifested in the proposal of the Autocrat of Russia to call an International Conference to consider the question of the disarmament of the nations, is evidence that the brutal system which has literally made bond-slaves of all races has seen the hand writing on the wall, and is realizing the fact that its days are numbered. We will pray and will work to hasten the consummation of that time

"When the war drum throbs no longer
And the battle flags are furled,
In the parliament of man
The federation of the world."

September has heralded its advent with a tropical climate. Up to the present date of writing, the 5th inst., the thermometer has daily registered in the nineties. But we enjoy the autumnal season when the result of the anxiety and toil in producing fruits and vegetables is realized.

Hamilton DeGraw.

Enfield, N. H.

Sept. 1898.

THE past month has been an especially busy one for the sisterhood, in caring for numerous companies of visitors. One day seventy-eight individuals called, of which number fifty-eight partook of dinner.

While consecrated strength has been given to care for temporal affairs, the educational, spiritual and social duties have not been slighted, and we are pleased to record the kindness of friends who have added their gifts with ours to help brighten and edify the lives of our own kindred.

Our towns-lady, Inez Packard, a late graduate of the Boston School of Oratory,

kindly entertained us for an hour, with various selections of prose and poetry. On another occasion, Mrs. Ida Harrington, of Worcester, Mass. entertained us with music and songs of a high order. As occasional intermissions, some of the young Sisters sang and rendered recitations.

We also entertained for a short period, the Rev. M. W. Borthwick, of Manchester, N. H. While with us, he delivered an impressive lecture on Temperance. Among many fine remarks he said, what we would not tolerate in our individual lives we ought not to tolerate in our society. As a people, believing that God takes more notice of our deeds than of our sentiments, we can endorse the above counsel, knowing,—He that knoweth what is right and doeth it not committeth sin.

Companies of Sisters attended the camp-meetings held at Lake Sunnapee and Wilmot, N. H. also the Vermont State Fair. Those who sold fancy articles, report good results. We drew first premium on braided and knit mats, bread, onions and beets.

George H. Baxter.

East Canterbury, N. H.

Sept. 1898.

THIS season has past into history with full record of thunder-storms and sudden showers. Winds and rains have done their best to test the standing strength of the luxuriant growth of corn now at hand, but it succumbed at last. Twenty acres of fine ensilage corn bowed to the ground and had to be cut by hand, while the Corn Binder was for once useless. Cutting for the silos commenced on the 13th inst., at the rate of seven or eight tons an hour.

About 1400 squashes of unusually fine quality must have, at least, honorable mention. 350 bushels of oats have been thrashed. Now the nuts are claiming attention and the butternut trees offer employment for many hands. The squirrels are nimble and avaricious, but we shall apply for our rightful share of all varieties.

One of the perpetrators asks to have recorded that 40 woodchucks met a violent

death this season. Partridges have been protected by law in this state from Jan. 1 to Sept. 15, under penalty of a \$10. fine, but sportsmen are now taking advantage of their freedom.

The register at the dairy records 98 gallons of milk one day last week. Sisters have canned over 1000 quarts of fruit during the month. The peach harvest is estimated at about 150 bushels, all varieties included.

School opened for fall term on the 13th, with fifteen pupils and—twenty classes (?)

Thanksgiving Day has dawned to an eternity with us, for we see God's goodness written upon every gift, we feel his unerring wisdom directing every dispensation of discipline; and even when the keenest blow falls we can but say, "Thy will, not mine, be done."

Jessie Evans.

Narcossee, Fla.

Sept. 1898.

THE love that labors and waits is the rewarded love. Our prayers are borne to God on the wings of our deeds, and this fruitage of the spirit can not be realized save through labor and sacrifice. Consistently speaking we have no faith in that love that is not a working or doing love. Go to work is the word and accomplish something for the good of humanity.

God, if he blesses us with the fruits of the Spirit, expects us to make our profession good by acts. Are we fulfilling our obligations to our divine Father or have we concluded to sit down with folded arms and wait for him to do our work? The smallest deed done in a great spirit becomes significant. The most obscure life looked upon by the invisible and the eternal becomes rich and full at last. Is there, then, any reason why our ranks should not be filled with true and noble souls if we do our whole duty? The extent and responsibility of our living does not wholly depend on beautiful surroundings of the material conditions. If it did then some of us might say we have done

our work, and we will trust to the accomplishment of the rest.

"Variety is the spice of life." Change sometimes gives food for thought. Orange trees are growing beautifully. All the late corn has made a good yield;—Peas are blooming and bearing. The largest sweet potato crops ever known are planted in this section and are growing to beat the band, and take it altogether we might be a great deal worse off than we are. We should be and are thankful for small favors until larger ones can be received.

Andrew Barrett.

Watervliet, Ohio.

Sept. 1898.

WE are having fine weather for fall seeding. Crops are fine, but prices low. This is not encouraging, when we think of our heavy taxes.

J. O. Tyler.

[Contributed by Genevieve DeGraw.]

OUR LOVED ONES.

WHAT are our loved ones doing to-day?
Those who have crossed o'er the chilling tide,
And landed safe on the other side,
Those who have left in the shrouding's fold
Beautiful clay for the grave to hold,
What are those dear ones doing to-day?

I who must deal with sorrow and care,
I who am hoping the crown to wear,
I with a heaven to lose or win,
I who am tempted and tried within,
Long to step over the bounds of time,
And see what is done in that glorious clime.

Waters of life untroubled are there,
Life's fair tree hath its fruits to bear,
Songs far sweeter than poets dream,
Angels sing by the flowing stream,
Folding their snowy wings they glide
Over the sands by the river's side,
Welcoming those who pure and white
Enter the beautiful gates to-night.

Oh, to be with them! Oh, to be there!
Oh, to be free from this cumbering care!

Oh, to be safe in the heavenly fold,
Out of the gathering storms and cold
Only to know my sorrows all past
Jesus has loved me and crowned me at last.

Soul be content, thou must labor and wait,
Toiling and trusting both early and late,
Jesus knows when to call thee up higher
More than his will dost thou ask or desire?
Called in the morning or called in the night
Called from earth's darkness or called
from its light,
Patiently wait thou and all will be right.

—Selected.

PERFECT PEOPLE.

PERHAPS no one of our friends is exactly as we would like to have him. He has his good qualities and strong points which attract and win us: at the same time he has defects of character to which we can not be blind. We have gone far, however, in cultivating the art of friendship when we take our friends as they are, and recognize that what we deem their faults are often closely connected with their excellencies. You can readily imagine a man more attractive to you in some elements of character than Jones, but if Jones were exactly the kind of man you would like to have him, he would not be Jones at all.

A friend of ours was in search of a horse that was an excellent roadster, full of spirit, and yet safe for his little girl to drive. He soon discovered that while there are many excellent roadsters and also many horses that children can drive, yet there are not many horses that have spirit and at the same time are perfectly safe in the hands of a child. This combination of qualities is pretty hard to get in horses. And there are combinations of qualities that it is pretty hard to find in men.

We say that we love and respect Jones; that, in truth, he is one of our best friends but we wish that he were different in this or that respect. Ah, yes, but the qualities that he has you do not often find in men who have the qualities that he lacks.

A man with push and energy if endowed with the gentler qualities which make up the character of his neighbor, would not be himself, with outstanding characteristics which give him an identity, but simply a mediocre,—a faint resemblance to himself and a shadowy likeness of his neighbor.

If we could make over Jones to please our idea of what he should be, he might not be as good a specimen of the race as he now is, and yet we can very clearly point out the improvement he might make in his character.

Let us remember that we, too, have our deficiencies and excesses and be charitable to our friends and trust that time, and intercourse with noble and intelligent minds will yet add to their character the sterner traits which they lack, mayhap, or adorn them with those graces, which will mark them as followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene.

Perfect men are not very common, and furthermore, the kind of man that we should deem perfect, because of his relation to our own qualities might not be perfect by any means. What most of us mean by a perfect person, is one whose qualities harmonize with or supplement our own.—Selected.

CHARITY.

By Sister Mary Whitcher.

My soul hath a secret
I'll keep it secure.
That if coolly treated
The same I'll endure.
And never repeat it
In one mortal ear,
With God rather leave it
Who only should hear.
No malice I'll harbor
In view of the same,
No sadness shall cover
My brow with its claim.
But onward in duty
My steps shall proceed,
Beholding but beauty
And working for need.

East Canterbury, N. H.

Sanitary.

DONT TALK OF YOUR ILLS.

"EVERY one of us has his and her own ailments," writes Edward W. Bok in the December *Ladies' Home Journal*, decrying the unpleasant habit many people have of discussing their bodily ills. "It is enough for us all to keep well ourselves: to be compelled to listen to the ailments of others does not make that task any easier. Besides all this, these unnecessary narratives of personal ailments are positively injurious to ourselves. Physicians all agree that many of the slight illnesses, of which some people make so much, could be cured if they would but take their minds from themselves. Too many people work themselves into illnesses, or prevent themselves from getting well, by talking about a petty ailment, which, if forgotten, would right itself.

It seems that one of the most important lessons we can all learn is to refrain from inflicting upon others what is purely personal to ourselves. Let us cease this tiresome, this inconsiderate, this unnecessary talk about our ailments. Cold and hard as it may seem, the fact is nevertheless true, and will ever remain so, that the vast majority of people are interested in what is pleasant in our lives, but not in what is unpleasant. Pains and sorrows are elements in our lives which are sacred and interesting only to ourselves."—*Selected*.

UNCONSCIOUS INFLUENCE.

It is daily life that tests us—the manner of men we are. It is not our prayer, it is not our profession; but it is the tone of daily intercourse and conduct that decides how we stand. The little, homely graces; the cheerful, every-day amenities; the Christ spirit uttering itself not so much in conscious acts as in unconscious influence; not so much in deeds as in that

subtle aroma which, without name, exudes from the saintly soul to equals and inferiors; to agreeable and disagreeable; to rich, poor, ignorant; to young, to old; bearing burdens, accepting crosses, seeking no great thing to do, content to put self by, and be a servant of the lowest—these are fruits of only one root—fruits that none may counterfeit.—*Selected*.

OUR EXCHANGES.

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HAPPY is the man who early learns the wide chasm that lies between his wishes and his powers.

Deaths.

Daniel Dunning, at Watervliet, Ohio. Aug. 29, 1898. Age 81 years.

Nancy Dow, at Narcoossee, Fla. Sept. 1, 1898. Age 69 years, 6 months and 25 days.

The battle is fought and the victory is won. Sister Nancy was one of the pioneers who over three years ago left their homes on the hillside to pledge their all in forming a home in the sunny South. She has died as she lived, a noble, worthy Sister, true to her convictions of right, and like the true patriot fell while sustaining the gospel banner of purity and love. Sister Nancy entered the Society of Shakers in 1833. A. B.

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